

00684.002986.1

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Divisional Application of:	)	
U.S. Appln. No. 09/536,303, filed	:	
March 27, 2000	)	
(Confirmation No.: 4220)	:	Examiner: Unassigned
	)	
Yutaka BAN, et al.	:	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
	)	
Application No.: Unassigned	:	
	)	
Filed: Concurrently herewith	:	
	)	
For: TONER SUPPLYING CONTAINER	:	November 5, 2003
AND IMAGE FORMING	)	
APPARATUS	:	

**Mail Stop Patent Application**

Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the patent documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (the "citation form"). A copy of each of the non-English patent documents also is enclosed.

STATEMENT/PETITION/FEE

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-identified divisional application. Accordingly, Applicants submit that no Statement, Petition, or Fee is necessitated by the filing of this paper. Nevertheless,

the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

#### REMARKS

This Information Disclosure Statement cites information, which is of record in the parent application.

U.S. Patent No. 6,185,401 B1 issued on February 6, 2001, from Application No. 09/161,715, which was cited in the parent application.

U.S. Patent No. 6,438,345 B1 issued on August 20, 2002, from Application No. 09/536,302, which was cited in the parent application.

U.S. Patent No. 5,608,501, European Patent Application No. 0 905 577 A2, and Japanese Patent Application No. JP 01-108581 were cited in the European Search Report, dated July 28, 2000, in a foreign counterpart of the above-identified parent application.

U.S. Patent No. 5,870,652 was cited in a first action , dated January 10, 2003, issued by the Chinese Patent Office. An English language translation of the Chinese Official Action is enclosed.

Japanese Patent Document No. 7-225514 is identified as corresponding to U.S. Patent No. 5,870,652.

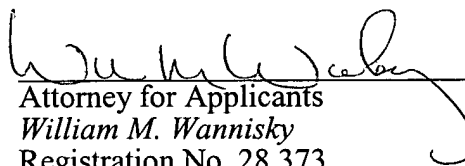
#### CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the cited patent documents and that an annotated copy of the citation Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating such consideration.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our New York office at the address shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WMW/tas

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)  Date Submitted: November 5, 2003				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>00684.002986.1</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>Unassigned</b>	
				APPLICANT <b>Yutaka BAN, et al.</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>Concurrently herewith</b>		GROUP <b>Unassigned</b>	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	5,268,722	12/07/93	Ikkatai, et al.	355	260		
	5,548,384	08/20/96	Weed	355	260		
	5,608,501	03/04/97	Makino	399	119		
	5,870,652	02/09/99	Kanamori, et al.	399	106		
	6,185,401 B1	02/06/01	Kanamori, et al.	399	262	09/29/98	
	6,292,644 B1	09/18/01	Goto, et al.	399	262	09/21/99	
	6,438,345 B1	08/20/02	Ban, et al.	399	262	03/27/00	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT		
1-108581	04/25/89	Japan			Abstract		
7-225514	08/22/96	Japan			Abstract		
0 905 577 A2	03/31/99	Europe					

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	
	Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 013, No. 349 (P0911), 7 August 1989 (1989-08-07).

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.